



5/8/95
● Graeme Littlewood cruised to 127 for East Ardsley who made 225-5 in reply to King Cross's mammoth 232-8.

Easts form goes west

King Cross.....232-8
*East Ardsley.....225-5

EAST Ardsley's dip in form in Central Yorkshire League division two continued last Saturday when, despite a much-improved batting performance the home team lost out to visitors King Cross.

In a match of 450 runs scored, East Ardsley opener Graeme Littlewood did his bit with a masterful 127, but a hat-trick of wickets by home skipper Barron curtailed East Ardsley's winning potential.

King Cross batted first and were soon in trouble as Mick Pearson gave East Ardsley a dream start by bowling no 2 Dyson from the fifth delivery, and then producing an even better delivery next ball which bowled Wajid to leave King Cross at 1 for 2 after an over.

With the score on 21, King Cross opener Carroll was run out after a horrendous mix-up with overseas star Ahmed and East Ardsley were in the driving seat.

But Ahmed put the run-out incident behind him to compile a stand of 109 with no 3 Pinder, who became the second victim of a run out when he went for 49 with the score on 130.

With 17 overs still to bowl, East Ardsley were found guilty of relaxing the pressure a little too early and even after Ahmed had been trapped lbw by Alan Boothroyd for a well-made 77, Smith and Ritchie were allowed to take advantage of mediocre bowling to take the King Cross score to 200.

Smith eventually gave Pearson the third of his four wickets when he went for 26.

Ritchie smashed two enormous sixes on his way to 35, and he was the last man out as King Cross finished on 232 for 8 — at least 50 runs more than East Ardsley should have been looking to score for victory.

Nevertheless, East Ardsley openers Littlewood and

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Geoff Smith were in determined mood and dug in to ensure East Ardsley did not lose any early wickets.

And by the halfway mark they had pegged back 64 runs. In the 27th over Smith perished for 29 while trying to increase the tempo and this brought Mark Redgewick to the crease.

He and Littlewood set about the King Cross bowling with relish to hammer boundaries, but also took singles and twos.

This pair dominated the King Cross attack and Littlewood completed a splendid century with a six over mid-wicket.

Fatigue was now the main enemy and when this partnership had realised 131 runs Redgewick was caught at mid-wicket for an excellent and invaluable 41.

The run rate at one time had been 11 an over, but with five overs to go East Ardsley required only 30 runs, six an over, and victory was certainly possible.

Six runs came from the 46th over, seven from the 47th, but only two from the 48th which left the match very much in the balance.

At this point the King Cross captain, Barron, who had only brought himself into the innings in the 47th over, swung the match back in the home side's favour.

With his fourth and fifth deliveries he had Middleton and Flynn on their way back to the pavilion. Littlewood was facing the last ball of the penultimate over with 13 still needed, but his innings ended there when he became the third victim in the hat-trick.

DIVISION 2

EAST ARDSLEY v KING CROSS King Cross

Carroll run out.....	13
Dyson b Pearson.....	0
Wajid b Pearson.....	0
Ahmed lbw Boothroyd.....	77
Pinder run out.....	49
J Smith c Osbourne b Pearson.....	26
Ritchie run out.....	35
Nothersall b Pearson.....	6
R Smith not out.....	4
Barron not out.....	10
Extras.....	12

Total (for 8 wkts) 232

Bowling: Pearson 19-0-66-4; H Smith 7-0-36-0; Osbourne 7-1-31-0; King 7-0-23-0; Boothroyd 10-0-67-1.

East Ardsley

Littlewood c Smith b Barron.....	127
G Smith c Wajid b Ahmed.....	29
Redgewick c Ahmed b Smith.....	41
Middleton b Barron.....	6
Flynn c Ahmed b Barron.....	0
Boothroyd not out.....	3
Pearson not out.....	2
Extras.....	16

Total (For 5 wkts) 225

Bowling: Ritchie 8-2-37-0; Dawson 11-4-37-0; Wajid 11-1-41-0; Ahmed 10-0-48-1; J Smith 7-0-38-1; Barron 2-0-8-3.